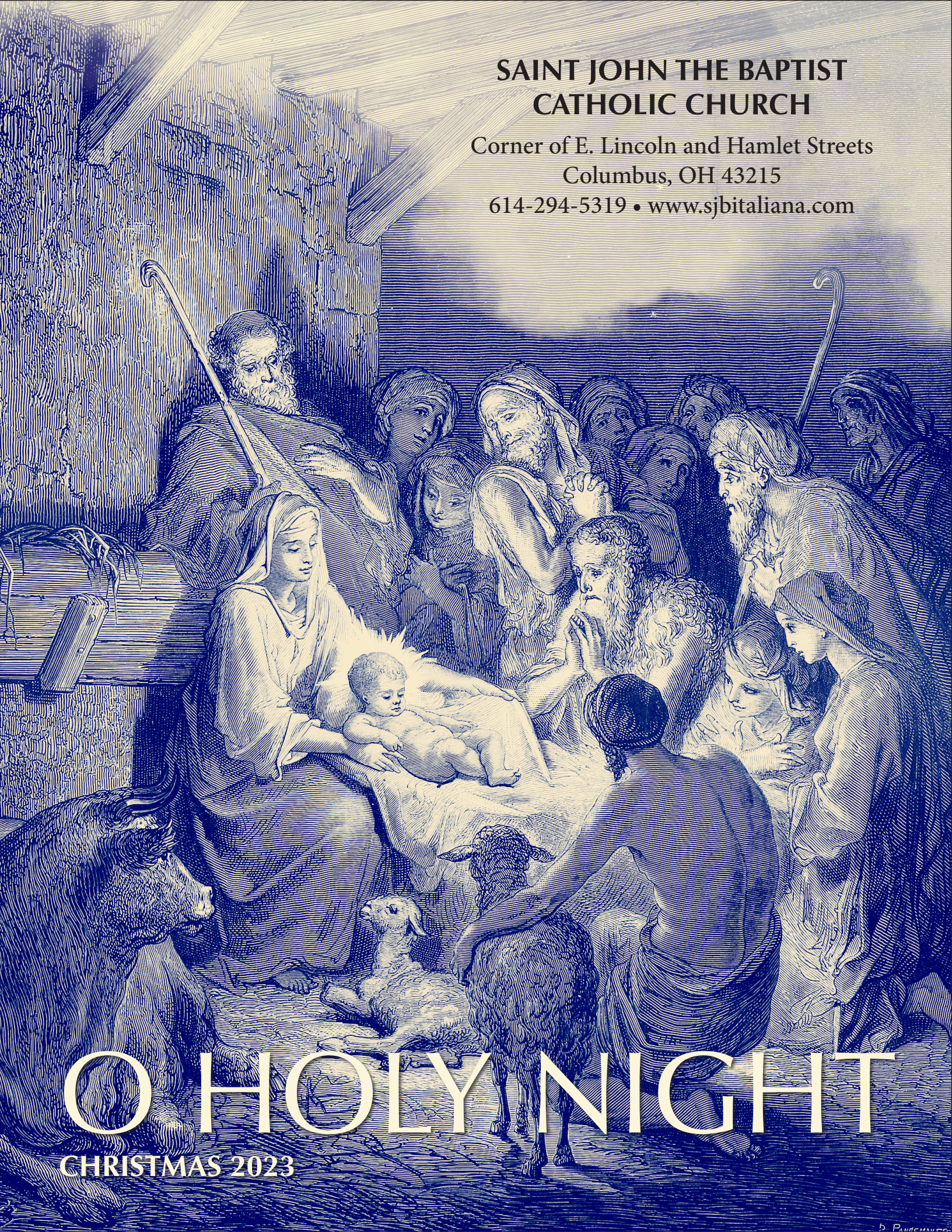


**SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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O HOLY NIGHT

CHRISTMAS 2023

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
Italian Catholic Church



My prayers this New Year are for all of you and your families. I thank you all for your generosity and support of St. John the Baptist Church throughout the years. On behalf of my staff: Aggie Howard, Victoria Scruggs, Gina Bishop, and John Huffman, we wish everyone a Blessed and Happy New Year!

Many Blessings!
Msgr. Frank Lane

Confessions heard before Mass
Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

Mass Time Change: Mass times at Sacred Heart are Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. and at St. John the Baptist are Mondays and Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. and Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. followed by RCIA at 7:00 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Parish Library on the second floor.

MASSES AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Sunday 12/31	9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. @ SH	+ Vincent Catalogna by "Friends of St. John the Baptist + Emilio & Maria Cutillo Coccia by Dr. Maria Regina Coccia
Monday 1/1	11:00 a.m.	+ Karen Mikalonis by Heininger Family
Tuesday 1/2	9:00 a.m.	+ Mary Lou Palma by Her Wonderful Friends
Wednesday 1/3	6:00 p.m.	Special Intention for Sister Giovana Carfagna by Michael & Crystal Cockerell
Sunday 1/7	9:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Joe & Vera Koesters & Family by Kevin Koesters
Monday 1/8	9:00 a.m.	+ Jack Butterfield by McCallum Family
Tuesday 1/9	9:00 a.m.	Living & Deceased Members of St. John
Wed. 1/10	6:00 p.m.	+ Elliott & Alice McCallum by the McCallum Family

MASS INTENTIONS: Please consider your Mass Intention for your loved ones for our weekday Masses, Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, as Sunday Mass Intentions are all booked. Thank you!

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Sunday	Sunday, December 31, 2023, 9:30 a.m.
Lector 1 & 2:	Nick D'Alberto, Tania Wade
Eucharistic Minister 1 & 2:	Margaret Panico-Harn, Kurt Heininger,
Eucharistic Minister 3, 4, 5:	Gretchen Heininger, Andrea Myers, Antonio D'Alberto
Sunday	Monday, January 1, 2024, 11:00 a.m.
Lector 1 & 2:	Ed Pagnanelli, Nick D'Alberto
Eucharistic Minister 1 & 2:	Antonio D'Alberto, Sharon D'Alberto,
Eucharistic Minister 3, 4, 5:	Andrea Myers, Ed Pagnanelli, Margaret Panico-Harn

Blessed Sacrament & Marian Lights Intentions:

Marian Lights: Joyce Tisone
by Carl Tisone
Blessed Sacrament: Jackie Patanella Barry
by Roger and Andrea Myers

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR KNOWN ILL AND ELDERLY IN YOUR PRAYERS**

**If you know of any additions or corrections, please call the parish office. Due to privacy laws, we depend on your input. For Vienna D'Alberto who is residing at the Worthington Christian Village. Also, keep in your prayers, Laura Williams, Guy Williams, John Contino and Mrs. Fiorenza Frissora.

The Rosary before Mass on Sunday: We begin the Rosary around 9:00-9:05 a.m., and it takes about 15-20 minutes to pray the Rosary. If you would like information on how to lead the Rosary, please contact Kevin Koesters at 937-902-7446 or via email k.koesters32@gmail.com. Leaders for December and January are:
December 31 Gary Bosco
January 7 Tania Wade

NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE 2023

New Year's Eve	Church	Mass Time
December 31st	Sacred Heart St. John	11:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. 9:30 a.m.
New Year's Day	Church	Mass Time
January 1st	Sacred Heart St. John	No Mass 11:00 a.m.

RCIA: Classes are now being offered for both Sacred Heart and St. John the Baptist parishes on Wednesday evenings right after the 6:00 p.m. Mass at St. John. RCIA class starts at 7:00 p.m. in the parish library located on the second floor. This class is required for anyone who wants to enter the Catholic Church, for those baptized Catholic, who did not complete the Initiation Sacraments, as well as those who simply desire to deepen their understanding of Catholicism. Questions? Contact Sharon Curtin at 614-563-8405, or SCurtin@sjbitaliana.org.

The La Befana Celebration will be January 7, 2024, after 9:30 a.m. Mass in Marrapese Hall. Please bring children, grandchildren and enjoy this beautiful Italian tradition. Sponsored by the Le Donne.

EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

12/31 Sunday	SJB Mass – Msgr. Frank Lane – 9:30 a.m. KCC Mass – Fr. Francisco Kim – Meeting in Sala Hall after Mass, 12:00-3:00 p.m.
1/1 Monday	SJB – Mass – Msgr. Lane – 11:00 a.m. KCC Mass – Fr. Francisco Kim – Meeting in Sala Hall after Mass, 12:30-3:00 p.m. KCC Use of Kitchen – Marrapese 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
1/2 Tuesday	SJB Mass – 9:00 a.m. St. John’s Prayer Group – Marrapese Hall 5:30 p.m. Join Piave Club for Dinner Piave Club Meeting – Marrapese Hall 6:30-8:00 p.m.
1/3 Wednesday	SJB – Mass – 6:00 p.m. SJB RCIA Class – 7:00-8:30 p.m.
1/5 Friday	KCC Mass – Fr. Francisco Kim – 6:00 p.m.
	Altar Guild Reminder – Every 2nd Sunday of the Month – Marrapese Hall at 10:45 a.m.
	Le Donne Group Meetings are the last Sunday of each month after Mass in Marrapese Hall. 10:45-11:15 a.m. There are no meetings in June or July.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP AT ST. JOHN
December 24, 2023
Number of Envelopes used Sunday – 60

Env:	\$ 2,446.00
Loose:	\$ 445.00
Holy Day:	\$ 1,070.00
Loose:	\$ 1,832.00
Total	\$ 5,793.00
Less Diocesan 8% Assessment	\$ -(463.44)
	\$ 5,329.56
Votives	\$ 89.00
Diocesan Charities	\$ 75.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 175.00
50/50 Drawing	\$ 10.00
Total	\$ 349.00

?? ?? HOW IS ST. JOHN'S DOING? ?? ??
Budgeted Offertory for Fiscal Year (7/1/23-6/30/24)

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference (\$)
This Wk.:	\$ 3,000.04	\$ 5,793.00	\$ 2,792.96
FYTD:	\$ 78,001.04	\$ 82,003.98	\$ 4,002.94

Income and Expenses from September 1, through September 30, 2023.

Income:	\$ 15,687.80
Expense:	\$ 28,302.87
Difference:	-\$ 12,615.07

DONATE QR CODE AND WEBSITE INFORMATION



Please help St. John the Baptist maintain this beautiful 125-year-old building with a donation by using the QR code to donate. Thank you!



SJB Collection Counters for Wednesday, January 3, 2024

Maruja Paule and Aggie Howard

SJB Collection Counters for Monday, January 8, 2024

Nick Persichetti and Aggie Howard



Office Hours: Parish Office hours are Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Office will be closed New Year’s Day, January 1, and Tuesday January 2, and will resume on Wednesday, January 3.

PAVERS: The front Pavilion of St. John Church is covered with Pavers. These Pavers are available for purchase and engraving in remembrance of family members and loved ones. For more information, please call the office of St. John at 614-294-5319.



This is a newly formed Italian Club for Young Adults. la prossima is a Young Adult Group keeping the culture alive through the next generation. A vibrant club for young adults of Italian descent.

Kroger Community Rewards Fundraiser: Did you know that every time you use your Kroger Plus Card when purchasing groceries, Kroger donates money to our church? All you have to do is register your card at www.kroger.com/communityrewards. It's that easy! Follow the steps below to enroll your Kroger Card today!

1. Go to www.kroger.com/communityrewards
2. Scroll to the bottom of the page. Click "Get Started" on the Link your Shoppers Card section.
3. Sign into your online Kroger account (or create an account if you don't have one).
4. In the Find an organization field, search for "St. John the Baptist Italian" or type in our organization's number "YY987" then click "Enroll."
5. Once you enroll, every time you use your Kroger Plus card at Kroger, your purchases will earn money for our church!

Please share this Fundraising Program with your friends and family! For this quarter, the Kroger rewards for SJB were \$57.33.

Altar Guild Pool: Score sheets for the December 29th Ohio State/ Missouri Cotton bowl game are now available for all who purchased an entry (see Gary Bosco in Sala Hall after Sunday Mass). Squares for the 2024 Super Bowl pool are on sale now. Entry cost for the SB is \$50.00 a square with a payout of \$1,000.00 for winning numbers at the end of Q1, Q2, Q3, and End of Game. The SB pool usually sells out in 4-5 weeks, so if interested, see Gary as soon as possible after any Sunday Mass. Once all entries are sold, square numbers will be drawn during a regular Sunday post Mass coffee & donut gathering (with copies of the scoresheets distributed shortly thereafter). Thanks for helping to support the altar needs of our church and good luck!



Thank you to all St. John parishioners who sponsored Christmas Flowers this Christmas Season!

AROUND US

Liturgical Calendar: The first eight days of **January** fall during the liturgical season of **Christmas** which is represented by the liturgical color white – the color of light, a symbol of joy, purity and innocence. The remaining days of **January** are the beginning of the liturgical season known as **Ordinary Time**, which is represented by the liturgical color green. Green is a symbol of and sparks in the faithful the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection. The month of **January** is dedicated to the **Holy Name of Jesus**, which is celebrated on **January 3**.

You are invited to pray for the Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of January 2024: *We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals in the Catholic Church.*

St. Charles Hosting Women's Auditions for "The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical" Production: The St. Charles Preparatory School Drama Department will hold women's auditions for *The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical* on **Wednesday & Thursday, January 3 & 4, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.** at the **St. Charles Campus Theater, 2010 East Broad Street** (You need only attend one of the two days.) Auditions are open to all area high school women in **Central Ohio**. **Production Dates: February 29-March 3, 2024.** If you would like additional information, please email **Doug Montgomery**, at dmontgomery@scprep.org.

JOIN Needs Your Help! JOIN (Joint Organization for Inner-city Needs) is often a "stop-gap" for our brothers and sisters who are doing their best to provide and succeed in life. We all come upon unexpected obstacles. For our neighbors who live paycheck-to-paycheck, that can be something as simple as missing work due to illness or something bigger, like a car repair. Basic supplies like toilet paper, soap, shampoo, conditioner, multi-purpose cleaning solutions, dish soap and laundry soap are items that people request at JOIN daily. **Kelsey** is a mom that came to JOIN to get assistance with bus passes for a new job she had. When she learned that we also had cleaning supplies and personal care items, especially toilet paper, she was overwhelmed that she could get those items as well. Meeting these most basic needs, when you don't have them, is a relief that is not measurable to a parent. Try to imagine running out of something, with no hope of getting it yourself for another week or so. If you would like to organize a collection or even donate an item or two on your own, it would be a gift to the neighbors we serve at JOIN. Feel free to call, **614-241-2530**, or email, lkeita@columbuscatholic.org, me, **Lisa Keita**, to get further information or just discuss what all JOIN does provide.



Feast of the Holy Family: Today is the **Seventh Day** in the **Octave of Christmas**. **Scripture** tells us practically nothing about the first years and the boyhood of the **Child Jesus**. All we know are the facts of the sojourn in **Egypt**, the return to **Nazareth**, and the incidents that occurred when the twelve-year-old boy accompanied His parents to **Jerusalem**. In her liturgy, the **Church** hurries over this period of **Christ's** life with equal brevity. The general breakdown of the family, however, at the end of the past century and at the beginning of our own, prompted the popes, especially the far-sighted **Leo XIII**, to promote the observance of this feast with the hope that it might instill into **Christian** families something of the faithful love and the devoted attachment that characterize the family of **Nazareth**. The primary purpose of the **Church** in instituting and promoting this feast is to present the **Holy Family** as the model and exemplar of all **Christian** families.

– Excerpted from *With Christ Through the Year*,
Rev. Bernard Strasser, O.S.B.

Christmas Plenary Indulgence: This **Christmas** season, **Catholics** can receive a **plenary indulgence** by praying in front of a **Nativity Scene** located in a **Franciscan church**. The indulgence will be available from **December 8 through February 2, 2024**. Those wishing to receive the indulgence must pray in front of a **Nativity Scene at a Franciscan church**. A **plenary indulgence** is a grace granted by the **Catholic Church** that removes the temporal punishment due to sin. To receive this indulgence, one must receive **the Holy Eucharist and the Sacrament of Confession within 20 days of praying in front of a Nativity Scene**. In addition, those attempting to receive the indulgence must pray for the intentions of the **Holy Father**.

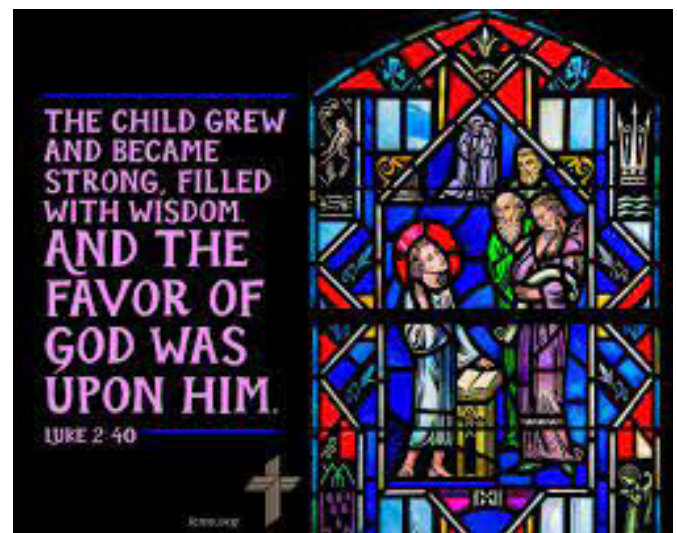


January 1: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God: This feast is the celebration of **Mary's** motherhood of **Jesus**. On this day, we are reminded of the role that the **Blessed Virgin** played in the plan of our salvation. Calling **Mary** "**Mother of God**" is the highest honor we can give to her. Just as **Christmas** honors **Jesus** as the "**Prince of Peace**," the **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God** honors **Mary** as the "**Queen of Peace**." **New Year's Day** is also designated as the **World Day of Peace**, further acknowledging the role of **Mary** in our hearts and in our world.

"Life is a gift that the Lord grants us, saying to us: Discover who you are, and work hard to make the dream that is your life come true." @Pontifex



Prayer for Peace:
Now, Lord, come to our aid! Grant us peace, teach us peace; guide us to our steps in the way of peace. Open our eyes and our hearts and give us the courage to say: "Never again war!"; "With war everything is lost." Instill in our hearts the courage to take concrete steps to achieve peace.



Prayer: *O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of Your house, delight one day in eternal rewards. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen*



Saint John the Baptist ~ Christmas Flowers ~ 2023

Name:

In Memory/In Honor of:

Mr. Mark Agriesti
Ms. Teresa Agriesti
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Bosco

Joe and Petrina Agriesti and the Agriesti Family
Bonnie & Charlie Agriesti and the Agriesti Family
Mr. John Victor Bosco, Mrs. Rosalia Sarah Bosco
Fr. John Gerald Bosco O.S.M., Brother Marion
Lawrence Bosco O.S.B.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Cirolì

Colangelo Family, Centofanti Family, Cirolì DiNardo Family,
relatives and friends

The Cirolì Family

Monaco-Colarossi Family

Mr. and Mrs. Derek Elbaor

Mr. and Mrs. John Fabbro

Cerino & Fabbro Family

Rose Ann Graf

James Graf

Mrs. Margaret Harn

Anthony & Carolyn Panico, James Van Horn, Jerry
Harn, Rosa & Guerino Panico

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Albert J. Iosue and Marlene S. Iosue

Pam and Don Kutsick

Tom Rego, Nancy Rego and Helen Rego

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Marchio

Antoinette and Sam Marchio, Daniel A. Marchio,

Ms. Louise Masdea

Eileen Petrovia, & Duane & Becky Rausch

Bruno Masdea, Major Don Gentile, Joseph & Margaret

Giantonio, Amanda Mia Masdea Baker & Albanese
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Daniel LePenna, & Galilei Family,

Mr. Louis F. Massenelli

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Myers

Dean Quick & Alexandra Myers

Mr. Keith Pecinovsky

W. J. & Helen Pecinovsky, Ron Rotilett, Chris Miller, &
Dennis Elliott, & Julie Lettwein

Ms. Judy Pishitelli

Joseph Pishitelli Family

Ms. Carol Ristucci

Danny & Carmela Ristucci, Ristucci & Albanese Family

Mr. Dale Romick

Romick & Caringi Famiglia

Mr. Patrick Rossetti

Mary & Harvey Rossetti & The Coccia Family

Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Shook

Roger Shook, Rina (Silvestri) Tiberi, Giuseppe & Flora

(LoStracco) Silvestri, Pasquale & Ida (DelSignore)

Tiberi, Antonio & Ida (Tiberi) Frissora

Ms. Irene Solazzo & Family

The Solazzo, Ventresca Families & Lucy Dellelis

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Susi

Nestor and Rose Susi, Paul, Toy, and Tom Seeger

Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Tiberi

Rina Tiberi and Charles Block

Mr. Carl Tisone

Tisone Family, Nicholas Tisone, Catherine Tisone,

Jody, Jennifer & Jeffrey Tisone

Ms. Donna Van Horn

James Van Horn

Ms. Tania Wade

Rina Tiberi, Flora LoStracco, Ida DelSignore, Giuseppe

Silvestri & Pasquale Tiberi

Mr. Brian West

Dominic Trapasso

Ms. Margaret West

Raffele & Caterina Trapasso, Angeline & David Hoke



Invest time each week to expand your vocabulary and deepen your faith.

31 December 2023

WORD OF THE WEEK

Vocation \vō-ˈkā-shən\

A summons or strong drive to a particular course of action, career, or occupation; a divine call to consecrated life or diocesan holy orders.

Pronunciation: <https://tinyurl.com/Take5-vocation>

CONTEXT

Many people mistake our work for our **vocation**. Our **vocation** is the love of Jesus.

—*Mother Teresa*

No **vocation** is born of itself or lives for itself. A **vocation** flows from the heart of God and blossoms in the good soil of faithful people.

—*Pope Francis*

Everybody, no matter what **vocation** they're looking at, should add music as an essential to their curriculum. Music can be a very important part of your soul and your growth as a human being. It's so powerful.

—*Quincy Jones*

WHY IT MATTERS

Each of us, through our Baptism, is called by God to follow the path of love. Our unique and particular response is our **vocation**. The church generally refers to four types of **vocations**: marriage, single life, holy orders, and religious life. It is up to each of us to discern the **vocation** that will give us the greatest sense of fulfillment and joy and lead us to holiness.

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church: The Beatitudes express the **vocation** of the faithful and shed light on the actions and attitudes characteristic of the Christian life (1717).

From *Vita Consecrata*: In the unity of the Christian life, the various **vocations** are like so many rays of the one light of Christ, whose radiance brightens the countenance of the Church.

RELATED WORDS

Discipleship | Charism | Consecrated Life

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Vocation: Does everyone have one?

Vocation is one of those words that tends to elicit a host of questions. What does it mean that God “calls” us? Does God plan our lives? Is free will a polite fiction, when God has our destiny all worked out in advance? The short answers are: Our freedom is real, human history has no blueprint, and God is prepared to greet any choice we might make with a constellation of grace and possibility. So feel—really and seriously—free.

Yet we say God calls us. To what, if not to particular things? God calls us to fullness of life. God wants you to be everything you can be, to the height and breadth and depth of your being. God wants you to be fully alive, which means loving, giving, expressing, and radiant—just as God is. We're made in the image and likeness of God. So answer that call, and you have stepped into your vocation for sure.

—*Alice Camille, from Questions Catholics Ask* <https://tinyurl.com/QCA-vocation>

REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD (JANUARY 1)

Bring Christ to bear

We begin the new year in the glow of the Christmas season of new life. Our focus today, however, is not so much on the child Jesus in the manger but on his mother, Mary. We bring to mind and heart the woman who said yes: Yes to being the Mother of God. Yes to becoming a vehicle for God to become incarnate in the world. It is fitting to honor Mary and walk with her as we enter resolutely into the new year.

READINGS: Numbers 6:22-27; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21 (18 <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/010124.cfm>). "*The Lord let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you!*"

FAITH IN ACTION

How does God call us to be bearers of Christ? We can start with offering Christ and all others the fullness of our love.

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